

**School Committee Meeting  
Monday, July 6, 2020 - Approved  
REMOTE MEETING- RECORDED**

**OPENING OF MEETING:**

Mr. Gee, Chair, opened the meeting at 6:05pm and read the following statement into the Minutes:

Good evening. This Open Meeting of the King Philip Regional School District is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker’s Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the “COVID-19 Virus.” “Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, Section 20.”

In order to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 Virus, we have been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor’s Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible *physical* location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

The Order, which you can find posted with agenda materials for this meeting allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting.

Ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless such participation is required by law. This meeting will present public comment during that designated portion of the meeting. As directed in the posting, public comment should have been emailed to the superintendent of school prior to the start of the public comment section of the meeting and will be read by the superintendent on the commenter’s behalf.

For this meeting, the King Philip Regional School District is convening by *google hangout* as posted on the District’s Website identifying how the public may join. Please visit: [www.kingphilip.org](http://www.kingphilip.org)

Please note that this meeting is being recorded, and that some attendees are participating by video conference. All voted will be taken by roll call vote.

**ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Members Present:**

Norfolk:	Michael Gee, Jim Lehan, Sarah Ward
Plainville:	Bruce Cates, Samad Khan, Michele Sharpe
Wrentham:	Trevor Knott, Jim Killion

**Members Absent:**

Norfolk:	Present
Plainville:	Present
Wrentham:	Erin DeStefano

HS Student Council Representative: Ms. James (Observer)

Mr. Gee welcomed and introduced the new members to the King Philip Regional School Committee:  
Jim Lehan, Elected Official with a three-year term on the School Committee  
Michele Sharpe, Appointed Plainville School Committee representative (one-year term)  
Sarah Ward, Appointed Norfolk School Committee representative (one-year term)

**CONSENT AGENDA**

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

### June 1, 2020 Minutes:

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Killion, seconded by Mr. Knott to approve the Minutes of June 1, 2020, as presented. A Roll call vote was taken: Yes (5): Mr. Gee, Mr. Killion, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mr. Knott; No (0); Abstain (3): Mr. Lehan, Ms. Sharpe, Ms. Ward. Motion carried.

### June 15, 2020 Minutes:

Mr. Gee noted for the record that after the June 15 meeting, it was pointed out that the salary figure he read into the motion for the Superintendent's salary increase motion did not reflect the 1% merit increase the Committee voted to approve. The calculation he had made was incorrect and the new salary is \$174,199.

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Killion, seconded by Mr. Khan, to approve the Minutes of June 15, 2020 A Roll call vote was taken: Yes (5): Mr. Gee, Mr. Killion, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mr. Knott; No (0); Abstain (3): Mr. Lehan, Ms. Sharpe, Ms. Ward. Motion carried.

## PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT:

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers: Mr. Azer

Mr. Azer noted that one primary agenda item is to approve the Warrants and address them. He asked for a verbal consent to pay the Warrants and for the Minutes will reflect this.

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Knott, seconded by Mr. Khan, to approve the Warrants as presented. (72, 72, 73a, 73b, 73c, 74, 75, 75, 76a, 76b, 76c) A roll call of members was taken: Yes (8): Mr. Gee, Mr. Lehan, Ms. Ward, Mr. Khan, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Cates, Mr. Knott, Mr. Killion; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

## COMMUNICATION:

### **AGENDA**

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Executive Session Minutes of June 15, 2020 (Part I and II):

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Khan, seconded by Mr. Knott, to approve and retain the Executive Session Minutes (Part I and II) dated June 15, 2020. A roll call of members was taken: Roll call vote was taken: Yes (5): Mr. Gee, Mr. Killion, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mr. Knott; No (0); Abstain (3): Mr. Lehan, Ms. Sharpe, Ms. Ward. Motion carried.

## DELEGATIONS AND VISITORS

Mr. Zinni, Superintendent, Dr. Gilson, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Mobley, HS Principal, Ms. Kreuzer, MS Principal, Ms. Moy, Director of Student Support Services, Mr. Azer, Director of Finance, Mr. Alves, Ms. Knapp, Ms. Sullivan, Mrs. Witkus, Miss James, Mrs. Wolf

## NEW BUSINESS (Taken out of Order):

### District Student Handbook (1<sup>st</sup> Reading):

Mr. Zinni, along with the building principals and the assistant principals, formed a subcommittee to review the HS and MS student handbooks and formed one comprehensive, professional, district student handbook to present to the School Committee that is in alignment with the Code of Conduct, policy and discipline laws. Mr. Zinni thanked the members of this subcommittee for their time and commitment to this incredible project. Hearing no comments from the Committee, Mr. Zinni asked that for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading that the assistant principals need not be present. A 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and vote will take place at the meeting on July 27, 2020.

### **District Curriculum Accommodation Plan: Mr. Zinni**

Mr. Zinni explained that Dr. Gilson and Ms. Moy, along with a team, revised and presented an improved District Curriculum Accommodation Plan that will roll out in the Fall. This document is to be used as a guide of suggestions for staff members to review and use throughout the year. Mr. Zinni thanked the team for this undertaking and is presented to the School Committee for their information.

### **COMMUNICATION:**

- In a memorandum dated June 30, 2020, Mr. Azer presented a Personnel Update
- An update on the Early Retirement Incentive Plan was given by Mr. Zinni in which 4 additional retirees accepted this plan as of June 30, 2020. These retirees will be recognized at a future summer meeting.
- Recognition of Service for Mrs. Karen Wolf. Mr. Gee read a biography of Mrs. Wolfe's volunteer and work experience during her years as a parent and employee of the district. We wish Mrs. Wolfe all the best as she moves to New Hampshire with her family.

### **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:**

#### **District response to state health and safety concerns: Mr. Zinni**

Mr. Zinni gave an update on the district's responses to state health, safety concerns and budget updates.

- Discussion ensued on awaiting the state funding and budgetary concerns and the impact this will have on schools.
- DESE Initial Fall School Reopening Guidance was distributed to school committee members for their review. Mr. Zinni explained that this initial guidance will be used to roll out an opening of school in the fall.
- Budgetary issues on the reopening of school was reviewed by Mr. Zinni as there are many variables with no clear guidance from the state on the amount of funding that will be distributed. There are budgetary concerns relative to staffing and reduction in force brought on by budget. Mr. Zinni reviewed the level service budget, the CARES Fund, which is distributed to the states, same as Title I, based on income level. For King Philip this will be an additional \$43,000 in support, which is not a significant amount. Student assignments will need to be planned for in August, but right now it is difficult to plan.
- Transportation issues were reviewed as the district uses 24 buses that are shared with the three towns at the cost of \$1 million. Due to social distancing and the number of students transported, this cost may double. Mr. Zinni explained that this is difficult to plan and budget for.
- Mr. Zinni noted that three re-entry plans will need to be designed and submitted to DESE by the end of July. These include:
  1. All students back in the classroom
  2. Full virtual plan
  3. Some in school and some virtual.

Discussion ensued on flexible guidelines and non-negotiable CDC guidelines, such as masks that the district will need to provide.

Mr. Zinni discussed different scenarios and explained that there needs to be a contingency plan in place as well. Parents can opt out of sending their students back to school, but we have to teach them and there may be teachers who do not feel comfortable returning to school. The administration will be sending our surveys on technology needs and have been working with the KPTA and the school councils on a new learning model.

### **High School Graduation:**

Mr. Zinni announced that the HS Graduation will take place on Friday, July 24 at 7pm (with a rain date of July 31). Mr. Zinni explained that this will be a socially distanced, outside graduation to honor our KP graduates. Students will be able to bring 2 guests to this outdoor event.

### **Fundraising Agreement:**

Mr. Zinni presented the final document on fundraising that was explained at the June 15, 2020 school committee meeting. This document has been fully vetted by the school attorney and will be implemented in the fall. All fundraisers will go through the KP Sports Boosters.

**Site Access Agreement:**

Mr. Zinni also presented the final document on a new site access agreement in which the group using the facilities are responsible for their group. This was explained at the June 15, 2020 school committee meeting.

**Budget Update: FY21**

Mr. Zinni explained that a 2.5% increase has been passed by 2 towns (Norfolk and Wrentham). A vote on the new budget for the district will be voted upon at the next school committee meeting to be held on July 27, 2020, as Mr. Zinni felt it was more appropriate to wait until after the Plainville Town Meeting was held.

**Summer Meeting Schedule:**

Mr. Gee suggested having additional School Committee remote meetings over the summer and proposed the following dates:

Monday, July 27 at 6pm

Monday, August 10 at 6pm

Monday, August 24 at 6pm

There were no comments or objections.

**✚A Motion was made by Mr. Killion, seconded by Mr. Khan, that the King Philip Regional School Committee will hold three additional meetings over the summer as follows: Monday, July 27, Monday, August 10 and Monday, August 24. The meetings will be held remotely beginning at 6pm. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (8): Mr. Gee, Mr. Lehan, Ms. Ward, Mr. Khan, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Cates, Mr. Knott, Mr. Killion; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.**

**School Committee Reorganization:**

Mr. Gee will plan to hold the reorganization of the Committee on Monday, July 27, 2020. This will include the chair, vice chair and subcommittees, consisting of members from each town.

**Resolution: King Philip Budget**

**✚A Motion was made by Mr. Lehan, seconded by Mr. Cates to approve the COVID-19 State Budget Funding Resolution, as presented. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (8): Mr. Gee, Mr. Lehan, Ms. Ward, Mr. Khan, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Cates, Mr. Knott, Mr. Killion; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.**

**REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

- Norfolk School Committee: Ms. Ward – Norfolk also passed a similar Resolution and discussed the DESE Guidelines for Reopening
- Plainville School Committee Representative: Ms. Sharpe – Plainville did not pass the override; a similar resolution was passed.
- Discussion was held on Plainville Special Education Programs. There is a requirement to provide services to any child on an IEP or a 504 Plan and those will be honored as mandated by law.
- Wrentham School Committee Representative: Mrs. DeStefano – None

**RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**✚A Motion was made at 8:02pm by Mr. Khan, seconded by Mr. Knott, to enter into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body, and the chair so declares. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (8): Mr. Gee, Mr. Lehan, Ms. Ward, Mr. Khan, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Cates, Mr. Knott, Mr. Killion; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.**

Mr. Zinni stopped recording the meeting and the live streaming was turned off.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:**

✚At 8:30pm, a Motion was made to return to open session solely for the purpose of adjournment. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (8): Mr. Gee, Mr. Lehan, Ms. Ward, Mr. Khan, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Cates, Mr. Knott, Mr. Killion; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

**ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Members Present:**

Norfolk: Michael Gee, Jim Lehan, Sarah Ward  
Plainville: Bruce Cates, Samad Khan, Michele Sharpe  
Wrentham: Trevor Knott, Jim Killion

**Members Absent:**

Norfolk: Present  
Plainville: Present  
Wrentham: Erin DeStefano

**ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion was made by Mrs. DeStefano, seconded by Mr. Knott, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (8): Mr. Gee, Mr. Lehan, Ms. Ward, Mr. Khan, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Cates, Mr. Knott, Mr. Killion; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Gee adjourned the meeting. Mr. Zinni will post this recorded meeting on the KP Website at its conclusion.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Elisa B. Witkus  
Secretary to the School Committee*

**Documents presented on July 6, 2020:**

- Minutes of June 1, 2020
- Minutes of June 15, 2020
- Warrants
- Personnel Update
- Executive Session Minutes of June 15, 2020
- DESE initial Fall School Reopening Guidance
- Fundraising Agreement
- Site Access Agreement
- District Student Handbook (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)
- District Curriculum Accommodation Plan (DCAP)
- Resolution: King Philip Budget